

old church building that was built with the financial assistance of James Murdoch, a well-known Shakespearean actor at the time.

On September 14, 2014, the church will be holding a Service of Celebration, during which this small but strong congregation will celebrate the anniversary of the church and all the good that it has brought to the community.

I would like to personally extend my congratulations to the Bethel Murdoch Presbyterian Church on 200 years of faith, service and worship.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JACKIE MCKINSEY

• Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I wish to honor Mrs. Jackie McKinsey of Springfield, MO, for her dedication and service to the Ozarks Technical Community College, locally known as OTC. Twenty-four years ago, McKinsey became a founding member of the board of trustees as the school began operations. McKinsey has been a guiding force in OTC's evolution into the dynamic school it is today, providing a wide range of technical, highly sophisticated curricula for post-secondary education for more than 14,000 students. Since 1990, OTC has transitioned into a modern campus with a series of new facilities in Springfield and the construction of a second campus with three additional education centers.

McKinsey led the search committee that resulted in the hiring of the current school president, Dr. Hal Higdon, in 2006. She has served in every office on the board of trustees, including chairperson, and has been a tireless advocate for community colleges in Missouri.

In fact, Jackie McKinsey has dedicated her life to activism in education. For 12 years she was a member of the Springfield School Board and spent 2 years on the Missouri School Board Association. She also served on the Missouri Special Education Advisory Board for 20 years. In 1996, she was appointed by the Governor to the Missouri Women's Council. Mrs. McKinsey is an experienced mediator and has served as a trained hearing officer in cases between parents of special education students and schools districts.

Jackie McKinsey announced her retirement last summer, and the board of trustees honored her with the title of trustee emeritus. McKinsey is the fifth individual to receive this honor, joining other founding trustees Dolores Brooks, Don Clinkenbeard, Frank Farmer, and Don Wessel. This team of Springfieldians gave OTC the steady direction to be a successful open admission, 2-year college dedicated to technical education. Offering students the opportunity to earn a 1-year certificate, a 2-year associate of applied science degree, A.A.S., or an associate of arts degree, A.A., OTC is now widely

praised for its professional faculty and diverse curriculum. I wish Jackie McKinsey all the best in this next chapter.

Jackie McKinsey has played a major role in that success, and her legacy will continue to impact future generations through the foundations she help put in place at OTC. I wish her the best in her well-deserved retirement.●

RECOGNIZING THE SPRINGFIELD LASERS

• Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, Philadelphia, PA; Boston, MA; Washington, DC; San Diego, CA; Austin and Irving, TX; and Springfield, MO, are the seven cities represented by teams in the World Team Tennis, WTT, league. For the second year in a row, the Washington Kastles and the Springfield Lasers met in the Mylan WTT finals. With similar results as 2013, the Kastles prevailed at the Springfield home court, Mediacom Stadium in the Cooper Tennis Complex. The Springfield Lasers were the WTT Western Conference champions in 1999, 2001, and 2009. This year's Springfield squad, led by head coach John-Laffnie de Jager, made the finals with a changing roster of 12 different players rotating in and out of 4 spots on the team.

The Springfield Lasers are a remarkable story. The franchise was purchased and donated to the Springfield-Greene County Park Board in 1996 by the Cooper family, who also donated funds for the municipal tennis complex. The complex includes 12 indoor tennis courts and 16 outdoor courts, including the center court stadium used for WTT events.

Now preparing for their 20th season, the Lasers are one of the oldest teams in the WTT league, and Springfield, by far, is the smallest market in the 40-year-old tennis league. However, the Lasers play in front of big crowds—an average of more than 1,400 turned out for the first six home matches this season. The James Blake-Andy Roddick match drew more than 2,400 spectators.

Harry and John Cooper and family continue to support the team as their biggest fans. The new Lasers' general manager, Paul Nahon, Jr., has worked on building a fan base with a growing demand for season tickets. Nahon has hinted at more innovations to grow that base for the upcoming 2015 season.

The Springfield Lasers continue to make the State of Missouri proud with their success, and I wish them many more years of great tennis, growing and building the fan base for tennis in my hometown.●

CONGRATULATING ELVIRA CENOZ

• Mr. HELLER. Madam President, I wish to congratulate Elvira Cenoz on her retirement from the Overland Hotel in Gardnerville, NV. Despite the name, the Overland is not actually a hotel, but one of the finest places for a traditional Basque meal in Nevada.

Since its construction in 1908, the Overland Hotel has been a stopping point for many travelers making their way through Nevada. Conveniently situated on America's First Transcontinental Highway, the Lincoln Highway, the Overland Hotel has a long history of welcoming local ranchers, politicians, civic leaders, and weary travelers. The Overland Hotel has since become a place for the Basque culture to be celebrated in Gardnerville. Nevada has a proud Basque history, and the Overland Hotel and Saloon embodies that long and rich tradition. The Basque people originally settled in Nevada due to our proud ranching traditions. Their hearty cooking and family-centric meals quickly became a staple of Nevada's local cuisine.

The Overland Hotel is known throughout the State and to all of its patrons for its authentic Basque cuisine and charm, which is greatly attributed to Elvira and her late husband Eusebio Cenoz. Eusebio bought the Overland Hotel in 1972 after many years as a sheep herder. He and Elvira were married in 1980, and she joined her husband to run the restaurant. She soon worked her way back to the kitchen, where she has remained until her retirement this year. Her love of cooking is exemplified in the menu of the Overland Hotel, which changes daily. The Overland Hotel is not just known for its great food, but also for its friendly service, further embodying the spirit of the Silver State. Patrons are often pleasantly surprised when Elvira herself greets them warmly at their table and takes their orders.

Throughout her years owning and operating the Overland Hotel, Elvira has demonstrated a commitment to preserving and sharing the Basque tradition. I am both humbled and honored by her many years of hard work and am proud to call her a fellow Nevadan. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Cenoz on her much deserved retirement.●

CONGRATULATING JUAN GUZMAN

• Mr. HELLER. Madam President, I congratulate Juan Guzman on his retirement from his career as Carson City's open space manager. As a longtime resident of Carson City, I have had the pleasure of getting to know and work with Juan and have seen the impact his contributions have made within the Carson community. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate him on his retirement after 14 years of hard work and dedication to the Silver State.

Juan, a native of Puerto Rico, earned his degree in geography from the University of Puerto Rico and then went on to complete his graduate studies in the geography department with an emphasis on urban studies at the University of California. Upon the completion of his studies, Juan began his career as a planner in California. After a trip to

the Sierra Nevadas, Juan decided to make the move to Nevada, where he became an associate planner in the community development department. He worked in Douglas County for 5 years before eventually settling in Carson City, where he began work in a similar capacity. His diligent work and commitment to the betterment of the Carson community did not go without public recognition, and when the position of open space manager was created in 2000, he transitioned from the community development's planning division to open space within the parks and recreation department.

During his tenure, Juan is credited with opening up 14 areas for recreational purposes and for natural preservation as well as acquiring several land transfers from the Federal government. I had the privilege of working closely with Juan on the Carson City Community Vital Act, public lands legislation I introduced while serving in the U.S. House of Representatives that enhanced open space opportunities, strengthened flood control measures, and ensured easy public access to Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service lands surrounding Carson City. That bill, which became law in 2009, still serves as an example in Congress on how an intensive collaborative process between the public and officials at the local and Federal levels can yield positive results for an entire region. Without Juan, this legislation would have never come together, let alone become law.

While we will all miss Juan, his impact in the Carson City community will live on. He exemplifies the highest standards of leadership and community service and should be proud of his long and meaningful career. Today, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Juan on his retirement, and I offer my deepest appreciation for all that Juan has done to make the great State of Nevada an even better place. I offer my best wishes for many successful and fulfilling years to come.●

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT JOHN A. CARROLL

● Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, it is my honor to pay tribute to the life and sacrifice of Army SGT John A. Carroll, of Ponca City, OK who died on September 6, 2006, of injuries sustained when he came in contact with enemy forces using small-arms fire during a dismounted security patrol while serving his Nation in Ramadi, Iraq.

John was born September 1, 1980 in Greene County, PA and moved to Lawrenceville when he was 8 years old. In his mid-teens he left to live with his father in Georgia where he earned his general education development degree. While traveling from State to State in search of employment, he was approached by an Army recruiter in Oklahoma promising a chance to continue his education and a large signing bonus. He was sold and enlisted in 1999.

John met his wife Jessica Carroll in Florida while on leave from the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Baumholder, Germany. He was on his third tour of Iraq and was due to be discharged in October 2006. After completing his service, they planned to live in Tennessee because they loved the mountains and the scenic surroundings.

A graveside service was held on September 17, 2006 at Mount View Cemetery, McMinnville, TN. Full military honors were administered by the Fort Campbell Honor Guard.

John is survived by his wife Jessica; mother Dawn Petrakovits; father Roger Carroll; two brothers Micah Carroll and Ben Beardsley; two sisters Liz Carroll and Rebecca Petrakovits; and mother-in-law Nancy Hicks and father-in-law Jerry Hicks.

Today we remember Army SGT John A. Carroll, a young man who loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

CORPORAL WILFRED FLORES, JR.

Madam President, it is my honor also to pay tribute to the life and sacrifice of Army CPL Wilfred Flores, Jr., of Lawton, OK, who died on March 31, 2007, of injuries sustained after an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle while serving his Nation in Ramadi, Iraq. He was 11 days short of his 21st birthday.

The son of retired Army Sergeants First Class Wilfred Sr. and Vicky, he was born April 10, 1986, at Fort Sill, OK. A member of the Jr. ROTC program, he graduated from Eisenhower High School in Lawton in 2004 and entered the Army Delayed Entry Program.

While waiting for his enlistment time, he volunteered at Giddy Up & Go, a non-profit therapeutic horse riding program for disabled children and adults. Wilfred joined the Army as an infantryman after completing basic and advanced individual training at Fort Benning, GA. After training he was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, NY. He was on his second deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

A memorial service was held on April 15, 2007, at Frontier Chapel on Fort Sill, OK. Burial with full military honors followed on April 16, 2007, in the new Fort Sill National Cemetery near Elgin, OK.

Wilfred is survived by his parents Wilfred Sr. and Vicky Flores; sister Theresa Siegrist; grandfather retired Air Force SSG Modesto Flores, Jr.; three nieces; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Vicky Flores said her son was very religious, very generous and believed "God had a hand in everything. He loved his job," she said. "He was there because he wanted to be there. He died doing what he loved the most."

Today we remember Army CPL Wilfred Flores, Jr., a young man who

loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

SERGEANT BUDDY J. HUGHIE

Madam President, it is my honor also to pay tribute to the life and sacrifice of Army SGT Buddy J. Hughie, of Poteau, OK, who died while serving his Nation in Kamdesh, Afghanistan on February 19, 2007.

Born October 23, 1981 in Carlsbad, NM, and a 2005 graduate of Poteau High School, Buddy and his unit were conducting a joint mission with the Afghan National Army and the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division in the country's Nuristan province when the group came under enemy small-arms and rocket-propelled-grenade fire. After two Afghan soldiers in the group were wounded, he left his position to provide medical assistance when he was shot and killed.

"Sgt. Buddy Hughie was a great American," said LTC Bobby Yandell, commander of the 1st Battalion, 180th Infantry. "Sgt. Hughie was one of those soldiers that you did not have to worry about; he always did the right thing. We mourn his loss, but celebrate the life of a great soldier." Buddy, who previously deployed to Afghanistan in 2002-2003, volunteered to return to the country, Yandell said.

More than 600 people filled Poteau High School's Sherman Floyd Fieldhouse to honor Buddy's life. Burial was conducted on February 28, 2007, in Live Oak Memorial Gardens in Charleston, SC.

"He didn't have to be in Afghanistan, he didn't have to serve that 45 days in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. He was there because he believed in what he was doing. More importantly, he backed those beliefs by action" said BG Myles L. Deering, the commander of the Oklahoma National Guard's 45th Infantry Brigade.

He is survived by his wife Alexis Hughie; son Cooper; grandparents Kenneth and Delores Hughie; his mother Julie Hicks; a sister Jennifer Claiborn; a brother Dennis Hicks; and his great-grandparents Andrew "Buddy" and Dimple Rogers.

Today we remember Army SGT Buddy J. Hughie, a remarkable young man who loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

SERGEANT JUSTIN L. NOYES

Madam President, it is my honor also to pay tribute to the life and sacrifice of Marine Sgt Justin L. Noyes, of Vinita, OK, who died on July 2, 2006, of injuries sustained while attempting to disarm an improvised explosive device in Al Anbar Province, Fallujah, Iraq.

Born August 8, 1982 in Tulsa, OK, Justin played football and baseball at Vinita High School where he graduated in 2002.

Just 1 day before his 18th birthday and shortly after graduating from high school, Justin enlisted in the Marine Corps. He and his brother, Jeremy were first deployed to Iraq for the start of the war in 2003 and were there when